on 31 October, 1988, grants have been released to State Governments and Union territories and to Voluntary Organisations for operating 2,30,258 Non-Formal Education Centres.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The target for the Seventh Plan is to set up 3,55,00 NFE centres by the end of 1989-80.

Space Tie-up with China

2230. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have any proposal to have space tie-up with China; and

(b) whether there would be any general discussions in the beginning of this aspect during the proposed visit of the Prime Minister to China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Matters concerning functional exchanges between India and China in various fields, including those in the field of Science and Technology, are being discussed with the Chinese Government.

Implementation of National Literacy and Immunisation Programmes

2231. SHRI JAGADISH JANI; Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Ministry of Rail ways have taken any steps to imple ment National Literacy and Immunisa tion programme; and

(b) if so, what are the details of training centres which have been opened or ogranised by his Ministry for that purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA); (a) Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) have taken steps to assist in National Literacy and Immunisation Programme.

(b) A total number of 389 Training Centres have been opened on the Zonal Railways to impart literacy to about 10,000 people. It has also been decided to protect Railway colony children (85 per cent) and all pregnant women by 1990 and the Zonal Railways have been advised to step up this year's Immunisation activities accordingly. 3(Three) Workshops in-volving family planning doctors have already been organised.

Indian Troops in Maldives

2232. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether any Indian troops are still being kept in Maldives for assisting the Government of Maldives in maintaining peace and stability in those islands; and

(b) if so, for how long they are likeiy to be retained there?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) A small contingent of about 305 Indian troops is in Maldives at the express request of the Government of that country and will be withdrawn as soon as the Government of Maldives is satisfied about the security situation there.

Advisory bodies to the IAAI and N.4.A

2233. KUMARI SUSHILA TWA: Will the Minister of CIVTL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what supervision exists to ensure that lnternatlonal Airports Authority of india and National Airports